

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-27 are pending herein. Claims 1-27 have been allowed. Claims 28 and 29 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in response to the Restriction Requirement. Claims 1- 6, 10-15 and 22-24 have been amended for clarification purposes only.

Applicants have also amended certain paragraphs in the specification and the Abstract to correct minor matters of form. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner's attention is drawn to the IDS submitted on August 15, 2003, which was after the date of the issuance of the current Office Action, citing one reference for consideration by the PTO. Consideration and entry of this IDS are respectfully requested.

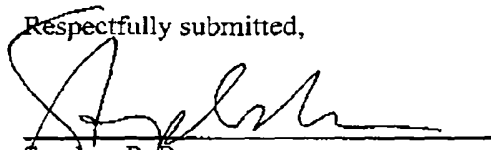
The Examiner is also requested to initial the last reference cited on the PTO-1449 form filed with the IDS on February 7, 2002. A copy of the PTO-1449 form as attached to the Office Action is attached hereto for the convenience of the Examiner.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous in connection with this Amendment, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

September 10, 2003
Date

Respectfully submitted,


Stephen P. Burr
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